
Introduced by Senator Hueso

**(Principal coauthors: Senators Beall, Cannella, Correa, Leno, Liu,
and Wright)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alejo, Brown, Buchanan, Campos,
Dickinson, and Lowenthal)

June 4, 2013

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 50—Relative to Dropout Recovery
Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 50, as introduced, Hueso. Dropout Recovery Week.

This measure would declare the week of August 4, 2013, to August 10, 2013, inclusive, to be Dropout Recovery Week, and would state the Legislature's intent to encourage the support of dropout recovery high schools with creative teaching strategies, alternative assessments, and adequate resources.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Research suggests that fewer than 73 percent of
2 9th grade pupils in California, and in some school districts fewer
3 than 50 percent, graduate from high school; and
4 WHEREAS, Research by the Alliance for Excellent Education
5 concludes that if only one-half of the dropouts from a single year
6 were to earn a diploma, the economic benefits to California would
7 be staggering: those recovered dropouts would earn an additional
8 \$1.4 billion each year, increase home sales by \$4.5 billion during
9 their careers, support an additional 8,700 jobs to the midpoint of
10 their careers, and increase state and local tax revenues by \$167
11 million every year; and

1 WHEREAS, Research further shows that reengaged learners
2 demonstrate higher civic engagement, contribute to the cultural
3 strengths of their communities, and are significantly less likely to
4 be unemployed, on public assistance, or arrested for a violent
5 crime; and

6 WHEREAS, There exist dropout recovery high schools in
7 California that provide significant social, economic, and academic
8 benefits to their pupils and to California's population as a whole
9 by reenrolling over 23,000 former dropouts; and

10 WHEREAS, Dropout recovery high schools face significant
11 challenges in reengaging pupils, including: (1) dropouts often
12 perform significantly below grade level; (2) dropouts suffer years
13 of academic and behavioral difficulties, absenteeism, and stressful
14 life circumstances; and (3) pupils who have dropped out once are
15 significantly more likely to drop out again; and

16 WHEREAS, Research by WestEd found that one-half of the
17 dropouts who return to school stay for one year or less, one-third
18 of returning dropouts fail to complete even one course after they
19 reenroll, and as few as 18 percent of returning dropouts graduate;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Successful dropout recovery high schools utilize
22 multiple strategies, including state-of-the-art technology, career
23 technical education to reach a variety of learning modalities,
24 accelerated learning pedagogies, competency-based, rather than
25 seat-time-based, instruction, and open entry and open exit
26 enrollment; and

27 WHEREAS, Successful dropout recovery high schools attract
28 and retain high-quality staff committed to meeting the instructional
29 needs of the whole pupil and transforming their pupils from being
30 at risk of failure to being successful; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved, by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
32 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby declares the week
33 of August 4, 2013, to August 10, 2013, inclusive, to be Dropout
34 Recovery Week, in honor of the schools and staff who work to
35 reengage pupils who have previously dropped out of school, and
36 in honor of the pupils who have overcome significant personal
37 challenges to reengage in high school and become transformed
38 learners who continue to pursue education in preparation for college
39 and a future career; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Legislature intends to encourage the support
2 of dropout recovery high schools with creative teaching strategies,
3 alternative assessments, and adequate resources; and be it further
4 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
5 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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